Applicants : BERMUDES, et al. U.S. Serial No.: 10/790,586 Filed : March 1, 2004 Page : 5

Remarks

The Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE) has indicated in the January 4, 2005 Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment that the amendments to the claims filed on December 8, 2004 caused the amendment document to be non-compliant because the canceled claims should not have any text.

Accordingly, Applicants remove text for canceled claims 1-9 and 11-18 as shown above. The content stated in the December 8, 2004 Amendment in Response to September 8, 2004 Office Action that was filed with the USPTO is reiterated herewith, with the exception of the removal of text for canceled claims 1-9 and 11-18. The above new claims 25-43 are the same new claims that were submitted in the December 8, 2004 Amendment in Response to September 8, 2004 Office Action, which are still pending and under examination. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request favorable action to be rendered by the Examiner.

Applicants : BERMUDES, et al. U.S. Serial No.: 10/790,586

March 1, 2004 Filed 2

Page :

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Communication. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1891.

Respectfully submitted,

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